

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 8, 9, 17, 18 and 20-23 without prejudice.

Please amend claims 1, 2, 15 and 24 by deleting the text thereof and inserting the following therefor.

1. (Currently Amended) A composite material comprising: at least one layer of base material, at least one inner protective layer of a flexible material bonded on one side of the layer of base material, at least one layer of a bonding material on a second side of the base material, at least one decorative layer bonded to the bonding material such that the bonding material is between the layer of base material and the decorative layer, and at least one outer protective layer of a flexible, material bonded to the decorative layer on a side opposite the bonding material, wherein the inner protective layer, the bonding material and outer protective layer include an aqueous acrylic polymer dispersion medium which is applied wet and bonds upon drying.

2. (Currently Amended) The composite material of claim 1 wherein the base material is a ~~strong~~ material of greater strength than the flexible material.

3. (Original) The composite material of Claim 1 wherein the base material is a non-woven material or a smooth finish woven material.

4. (Original) The composite material of Claim 1 further including a woven backing attached to the first protective layer on a side thereof opposite the layer of base material.

5. (Original) The composite material of Claim 1 wherein the inner protective layer is at least water resistant.

6. (Original) The composite material of Claim 1 wherein the outer protective layer is at least water resistant.

7. (Original) The composite material of Claim 1 wherein the outer protective layer is translucent.

8. (Cancelled) The composite material of Claim 7 wherein the outer protective layer includes an acrylic polymer medium.

9. (Cancelled) The composite material of Claim 1 wherein the inner protective layer, the bonding material and outer protective layer include an acrylic polymer medium.

10. (Original) The composite material of Claim 10 wherein the decorative layer includes a textured paper.

11. (Original) The composite material of Claim 1 wherein the textured paper includes a generally random wrinkled pattern.

12. (Original) The composite material of Claim 1 wherein the decorative material is a textured material having a hard finish.

13. (Original) The composite material of Claim 1 wherein the decorative material is a textured paper material having a calendered finish or a plate finish.

14. (Original) The composite material of Claim 1 wherein the decorative material is a textured woven material having a tight weave and a hard finish.

15. (Currently Amended) A method of fabricating a composite material comprising the steps of: bonding at least one layer of a flexible, water resistant material to one side of a layer of base material, bonding at least one decorative layer to the other side of the layer of base material, and bonding at least one outer protective layer of a flexible, water resistant material to the decorative layer on a side opposite layer of base material, wherein the flexible, water resistant material includes an aqueous acrylic polymer dispersion and wherein the steps of bonding includes the steps of applying an

aqueous acrylic polymer dispersion medium in a wet state and allowing the aqueous acrylic polymer dispersion medium to dry.

16. (Original) The method of Claim 15 wherein the decorative layer includes a textured material.

17. (Cancelled) The method of Claim 16 wherein the flexible, waterproof materials bonded to the layer of base material is an acrylic polymer medium.

18. (Cancelled) The method of Claim 16 wherein the decorative layer is bonded to the layer of base material using an acrylic polymer medium.

19. (Original) The method of Claim 16 wherein the outer protective layer is translucent.

20. (Cancelled) The method of Claim 19 wherein the outer protective layer is an acrylic polymer medium.

21. (Cancelled) The method of Claim 16 wherein the flexible, waterproof materials bonded to the layer of base material is an aqueous polymer medium.

22. (Cancelled) The method of Claim 16 wherein the decorative layer is bonded to the layer of base material using an aqueous polymeric medium.

23. (Cancelled) The method of Claim 19 wherein the outer protective layer is an aqueous polymeric medium.

24. (Currently Amended) A composite material comprising: at least one layer of base material, at least one inner protective layer of an aqueous acrylic polymer dispersion medium bonded on one side of the layer of base material, at least one bonding layer of an aqueous acrylic polymer dispersion medium on a second side of the base material, at least one decorative layer bonded to the bonding material such that the bonding layer is between the layer of base material and the decorative layer, and at least

one outer protective layer of an aqueous acrylic polymer dispersion medium bonded to the decorative layer on a side opposite the bonding material.